Strategy included effective inter-sectoral co-ordination, mass awareness and social mobilization, and syndromic management of STI/RTI by holding camps in each village during campaign.

Care of HIV/AIDS patients

Government is providing adequate facilities in all public sector hospitals for management of opportunistic infections among these patients. Drugs for management of these opportunistic infections are provided free of cost in these hospitals including drugs for treatment of Tuberculosis in these patients.

Global meet on Vascular Ultrasound

4107. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the discussion that took place in the global meet on vascular ultrasound held in February, 2002 in Delhi; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to reduce the cardiovascular disease which is predicted to cause death to the maximum victims by 2005?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Sixth World Congress of Echocardiography and Vascular Ultrasound held from 8-10th February, 2002 at Delhi. The main thrust of the programme was on clinical encardiography and its optimal use in patient management.

(b) Cardio Vascular diseases are managed at various levels in the Urban Health Care Institutions and Rural Health Care Delivery System in the country both in the public and private sectors. Apart from several district level hospitals, which provide secondary level health care facilities, premier government hospitals and autonomous institutions like All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) Chandigarh provide specialized tertiary care facilities in the field.

Monitoring of contaminants in food

4108. SHRI C.O. PQULOSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that use of pesticides is seriously affecting the safety of foods;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to develop a properly designed system for monitoring of contaminants in food and food products; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The use of pesticides in crops is regulated under the Insecticides Act, 1968, implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture. The Registration Committee constituted under Section 5 of this Act, registers pesticides for use upon food crops in the country only after satisfying itself regarding efficacy of the pesticides and their safety to human health, animals and the environment.

While registering the pesticides, the Registration Committee also prescribes the crops, pests and diseases for which the pesticides are to be used, their doses, the method of their application and the safety precautions or instructions to be followed for the use of pesticides.

Thus, if pesticides are used in the approved doses and in accordance with the conditions following the safety precautions or instruction for its use, then their use do not threaten safety of food. However, excessive use, misuse or abuse may result in excessive residues in foods, which may affect safety of food and/or human health.

In order that the contaminants in food products do not excess the safe limits, the Ministry of Health has prescribed Maximum tolerance limits for pesticides in food products under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. The States/UTs are responsible for monitoring and implementation of the provisions of PFA Act, 1954 and PFA Rules, 1955 in the country.

AIDS cases in Andhra Pradesh

4109. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of AIDS cases detected in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite crores of rupees released through National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) and Department for International Development of British Government to Andhra Pradesh State AIDS Control